

PACIFIC COAST BREAKWATER.

This is a subject which is now engaging the attention of the entire press of California. Column after column are written upon the importance of a harbor of refuge, and quite a number of points are urged as the proper place for its location. By the politeness of Capt. J. J. Winant, we are in receipt of a copy of the supplement to the *San Francisco Journal of Commerce*, of Jan. 22, 1879, which is filled with well written and able articles on Pacific Coast Harbors. We are not surprised that the preference, in all these articles, should be given to California, but we were somewhat surprised to find mention made of Rogue River, Port Orford, Arago, Coos Bay, Umpqua, Siuslaw, Alesha, Yaquina Bay, Oyster Bay, Columbia river, and other points, in Oregon, but not one word about Cape Foulweather, which beyond all doubt, in any unprejudiced mind, is the most available and most practicable point for a breakwater between San Francisco and Puget Sound. Why this omission? Was it accidental? Of course not. No person, assuming such perfect knowledge of harbors of the Pacific coast, should have been ignorant as to the importance of Cape Foulweather in this connection. There was, evidently, a design in the utter silence observed as to the existence of Foulweather.

While, we say, we were not surprised at the course pursued by California writers, on this subject, we were surprised, amazed, confounded, at the action of the Portland Board of Trade, at its regular meeting, March 12, in ignoring the existence of Cape Foulweather, as well as the culpable ignorance displayed by the following resolution adopted by that Board, as found in their proceedings, published in the *Oregonian* of the 13th inst., as follows:

WHEREAS, The report of the U. S. board of engineers of the Pacific coast shows that Port Orford, in Oregon, is by nature the best located and protected port, and of easier construction at less expense as a harbor of refuge, occupying as it does a position midway between San Francisco and Puget Sound, and consequently of greater utility and speedier access to vessels in distress proceeding to or from Oregon, Washington territory, British Columbia and Alaska, than Trinidad or more southern points in California, therefore,

Resolved, That this board do represent these peculiar advantages to Gen. Humphreys, chief of engineers at Washington, Col. Gillespie, U. S. engineer at Portland, and to our senators and representatives in congress, and respectfully ask them to urge on the department the selection and adoption of Port Orford, or failing which, Coos Bay, as the place for the construction of the harbor of refuge ordered by congress for the Pacific coast; that the secretary forward copies of this resolution to the gentlemen herein named, together with abstracts of the reports of the board of Engineers on the Pacific coast, and Col. Wilson, made to Gen. Humphreys.

We hope every reader of the GAZETTE will compare the statements of the above resolution with the official report of R. A. Habersham, assistant engineer, under direction of Col. Wilson, as published in the GAZETTE of Feb. 21st. How could this honorable Board of Trade, which is supposed to be interested in the commerce of the entire State, resolve that the report recently made shows that "PORT ORFORD, IN OREGON, IS BY NATURE, THE BEST LOCATED AND PROTECTED PORT, AND OF EASIER CONSTRUCTION AT LESS EXPENSE AS A HARBOR OF REFUGE" etc.

Perhaps this Board of trade had not, at the time of passing the above resolution, seen the report of Mr. Habersham. For their benefit, and others who may have overlooked some of the most important points, in that report, we will make a brief extract, as follows:

There is no question that such a work, if carried out, would greatly benefit navigation by affording shelter from southwest gales. Some such protection is absolutely required. But a better harbor, at much less cost, would be secured by building a breakwater from the extreme point of Cape Foulweather northward, inside of the reef above described, for a distance of 600 feet. This would enclose an area of about 100 acres, under the lee of the cape, with good anchorage in from 4 to 8 fathoms of water, having a free entrance from the west 1,200 feet wide. Such a harbor would satisfy the present necessities, not only as a refuge but also as a port of entry, Yaquina Bay being accessible only to light-draught coasting vessels; and it might be enlarged at any future time, if desired, by extending the breakwater along the reef.

The cost per linear foot of a breakwater here, on the plan recommended, would be as nearly as can be estimated from the data obtained, as follows, its dimensions being: Length 600 feet, average depth below low tide 31 feet.

Ashlar masonry	\$410 00
Rubble masonry	125 72
Small rough rubble	220 00
yards, at \$2	
Large rough rubble, 50-25 cubic yards, at \$4	237 00
Per linear foot	994 32
Making for its length of 600 feet	596,592 00
Add for contingencies 10 per cent	59,659 20
Total	656,251 20

Thus it will be seen, from the official

report, (no newspaper opinion,) that a harbor of sufficient capacity to "satisfy the present necessities, not only as a refuge, but also as a port of entry," could be obtained at Cape Foulweather, for the paltry sum, in comparison to the advantages to be gained, for \$656,251 20. The lowest estimate made by Col. Wilson for such a work, at Port Orford, is \$3,427,000. We leave our readers to judge which can be constructed for the least money, according to OFFICIAL REPORTS?

FROM THE CAPITAL.

SALEM, March 17, 1879.

EDITOR GAZETTE: This, among the Irish citizens, is "the day we celebrate," and its observance among that class of people is as universal and scarcely less enthusiastic than is that of the glorious Independence day of American origin. True it is, that there are but few localities in Oregon where it is publicly observed; but, nevertheless, a thoroughbred son of Erin's Isle will remember the day in some manner—ostentatiously or otherwise—celebrate it. It is in our large cities, however, that we see it more generally observed, and an Irishman who, on that day, would do a stroke of work—save in cases of dire necessity—would endanger his reputation as a true born Celtic. Here, women and children in Oregon's metropolis, to-day, are united in its celebration and the Irish heart rejoices at its annual recurrence. The Irish, as a class, are a mirth-loving—and we might, at the same time, add—a mirth provoking race, ever ready with a repartee and brimming full of wit and originality. The witticisms of the Celtic race are proverbial and any one to get ahead of a "bog-trotter" must wake up early in the morning. As citizens, we have few better. They have, indeed done more for us, as Americans, than any other race of foreigners, and all lovers of the Union bear in kindly remembrance their meritorious services during the late civil war. All honor, say we, to the sons of Erin. Their devotion to the mother country is commendable, and the heart of the average American would with them rejoice in their freedom from thralldom. We can but admire their adhesion to the time honored custom of celebrating the birth of their patron saint, and the soul stirring Irish airs played and sung throughout the country, to-day will, we feel assured, cause the American heart to pulsate with renewed activity. The Irish citizens of Salem have never, we believe, united in any public observance of the day, a fact that we have often wondered at, as we have a number in our midst who could, were they to combine their forces, get up a celebration every way worthy of the name.

Well, we were down to Portland on Friday last, the day of the execution of the far-famed Johnson and Brown, the murderers of the boy Louis Joseph of that city. The details of the execution have been vividly portrayed by the omnipresent reporters of the daily press of that city and we need not dwell upon them. One thing, however, attracted our attention, and while it might have elicited the admiration of a few, at the same time, excite the unqualified disapprobation of a very large majority of the best citizens of the place. We allude to the military display on that occasion. The three military companies were ordered out and were in attendance in full uniform, armed and equipped as if marching against a foe. Directly southeast of the court house a monstrous brass cannon gaped, with open mouth, at the halls of justice, and a full fledged battery stood ready to open fire on the building, fearful perhaps, that Sheriff Norden and his deputies might, at the last moment, weaken, when the brave soldiers would be ordered to shoot the whole top of his head off. A stranger passing down Fourth street would have imagined Portland the most lawless city in the whole country and the military was necessary to maintain the peace of the city. It appeared more like a gala day, and men, women and children, with what appeared to be a morbid curiosity, crowded around the jail, apparently desirous of catching a glimpse of the execution. Brass coats, blue buttons, gold lace, glittering bayonets, bristling cannon, and white gloves, appeared to predominate, while the stars and stripes were humiliated—by being unwillingly hoisted over the senseless display. Out upon such tom foolery. A squad of policemen would have been well enough, but to order out our state militia on such an occasion was bad taste, to say the very least, and the gaudy display of fuss and feathers was disgusting to almost every one, Portland can now wag her gory locks at the capital, and

gloat over her ascendancy in that she has been honored with two executions, while Salem has been ignominiously cheated out of her only opportunity to retaliate.

The calendar of crime has been light, this week, in our neighborhood and news of any character are in great demand. One female, known as Mollie Rogers, has been arrested for having beguiled an old French lady into giving her ten dollars in silver for a confederate note of the same denomination, under the pretense that it was a gold note. Arrest followed and the case still hangs fire.

Work on the capitol building is progressing finely. Warner, Barker and Sloat have the contract for painting the iron ornaments on the outside and are busily engaged in so doing. Ben. Strang is putting a new tin roof around the outer edges and connecting it with the cornice beneath. Flexter and May are putting the iron cornice rapidly in place, while Tom Huntington and a force of men are covering the outer wall with a heavy coat of cement. J. M. Scott, Esq., with a force of carpenters, is putting the finishing touches on the treasurer's new apartments which, when completed, will be a model of convenience. By the time the appropriation is exhausted the building, so far as outside appearances are concerned, will look at least two hundred per cent better.

All that remained mortal of the late Mrs. Dell Alexander was consigned to earth yesterday. The body arrived on the steamer Oregon and was brought to Salem on Saturday evening's train and the funeral took place on the day following from the M. E. Church, Rev. F. P. Tower officiating. The building was filled with relatives and friends, and the ceremonies were impressive throughout. The remains were followed to their last resting place by a large concourse of people, M. L. Chamberlin, C. B. Moores, H. H. Giffy, J. A. Stratton, John W. Roland and A. T. Yeaton, acting as pall bearers for the occasion. Peace to her ashes.

The Governor has made the following executive appointments since I wrote you last: Notaries Public, James Riley, Harrisburg; A. J. Hamblin, Beaverton; H. B. Nicholas, Portland and C. W. Fitch of Eugene City. Military commissions have been issued as follows: Isaac Jacks Captain, J. E. Coleman 1st Lieut. and J. E. Glascock 2nd Lieut. Company "B" Second Regiment Third Brigade Oregon State Militia, with headquarters in Umatilla county.

Articles of Incorporation have been filed as follows: The Columbia Canning Company of Portland, James Laidlaw, C. W. Higgins, and James Strang incorporators; Capital stock \$20,000. The Bridge Creek Road and Bridge Company of Wasco county; Incorporators, S. P. Lawrence Mary J. Helms and John Helms; Capital stock \$1000. Portland Schutzen Verein; Incorporators, W. Schmitz, Chris. Schloth, A. A. Cohn, Peter Esser and E. G. Gartner; capital stock \$100; object to perfect sharpshooting and the general development of body and mind.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Calvert of this city celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of their wedding last evening and entertained a number of friends. The base ball clubs are reorganizing for the coming season, the Acme and Eagle club having just held their annual election. Sheriff Jos. A. Baker and his estimable lady lost their son Frank yesterday, a lad of some ten years of age.

Efforts are being made to induce Rev. May, of Portland to visit this city and deliver his lecture on the Talmud. Dame Ramor insists that Judge Harding, of this District, contemplate resigning his position on the bench, and that His Excellency the Governor will appoint R. S. Strahan, of Albany, to fill the vacancy. "Ned"

TARDY JUSTICE—The Oregonian says a private dispatch from Mr. J. D. Holman, who has been at Washington City for some weeks past, states that the bill long pending which passed the senate last session awarding him \$25,000 has finally passed the house. This claim was for improvements on the Pacific City site, which Mr. Holman owned and which, on the establishment of a military post at Cape Disappointment, was appropriated by the government. No doubt of its justice was ever supposed, but circumstances of important legislation, and the business of the civil war before congress made all other matters subordinate, and this among them suffered tedious and unjust delay.

There is much good land still open for settlement on the Siuslaw, in the southern part of the State.

HANGING IN PORTLAND.
JOHNSON AND BROWN MEET THEIR FATE.

The Last Hours of the Doomed Criminals.

SAD WARNING TO FAST YOUNG MEN.

On last Friday, March 14, 1879, at 2:22 p. m., two of the O'Shea robbers and the murderers of the boy Louis Joseph, paid the penalty of their crimes upon the gallows in Portland—the second execution in that city. We make the following extracts from the Oregonian's account of the terrible tragedy, from the issue of March 15th:

Dark, sombre clouds hung over the city yesterday like a pall; fit emblem of the tragedy that was enacted for so many eyes. With the sentence imposed upon them, James Johnson and Archie Brown paid the penalty of their misdeeds upon the scaffold. Neither of the men are represented by their right name. Brown's true name is Eugene L. Avery, as is not well known. That of James Johnson is also assumed, but his real name is known to but few, and though in possession of all the facts in this life we do not feel called upon to divulge them for the sake of gratifying public curiosity. With us he shall live and die as James Johnson. His motive and the facts in his life we do not need to repeat in this article. Both men are twenty-five years of age, and before the enactment of the crime that was yesterday paid for by their lives had served a term in the State prison of California at San Quentin. Both are of respectable parentage, the family of Johnson residing in California and moving in the best society; that of Brown at Watertown, Wisconsin. It had been hoped by many of their friends that a commutation of sentence would be granted them, but all efforts in this direction failed, and they were sentenced to hang. Young Louis Joseph had expiated their crime. The preparations made for their execution were perfect in every detail. The scaffold was erected on the south side of the court house and enclosed by high stockade fence, completely hiding from view the tragedy enacted within its walls. The streets in the vicinity for hours prior to the time of the execution were filled by many, who drew there from all directions, anxious to see the execution. The crowd was so dense that it was difficult to get near the scaffold. The preparations made for their execution were perfect in every detail. 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